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CLASSIFICATION CONFIDENTIAL/SECURITY INFORMATION

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY USSR/(Estonian SSR)

DATE DISTR. 25 Mar 1953

SUBJECT Kohtla Järve Oil Shale Processing Plant

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SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT

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DATE OF IN

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

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1. The gasoline cracking facilities were located in the building labeled "H" The cracking of kerosene was more than an experimental process, as the plant at Kohtla Järve was intended to raise the national level of science. There was a limited research program being carried out. Cracking consisted of injecting the kerosene into a so-called cracking chamber which was maintained at relatively high temperatures. The big kerosene molecule kept hitting the hot walls of the chamber and broke up into smaller particles which emerged as gasoline.

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2. Kerosene (boiling at 120°-180°C.) was used as a fuel in marine Diesel engines and small power plants. Since imported gasoline was available and cheaper, and since its quality was better, there was no great demand for the gasoline produced at Kohtla Järve. Since there was a bigger demand for kerosene, more emphasis was place on its production. Not more than 20% of the kerosene produced was cracked for gasoline.

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3. at Kohtla Järve (summer 1939-40) there were plans to build larger facilities for the cracking of gasoline.

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